St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts & giving glory to God.
HOLY DAYS

WEEKDAYS:
SUNDAY: 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
SATURDAY: 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM

SUNDAY:
8:00 AM
6:30 AM Spanish
6:30 AM Children’s Liturgy of the Word
10:30 AM
12:30 PM Spanish

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Alta servers
Jack Watkins......................................... 925-957-0437
Art and Environment
Beth Churchill....................................... 925-200-6300
Bingo
Don Brocca.................................... 925-858-7330
Catholic Youth Organization - CYO
Gina Marks........................................ 925-817-9429
Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Debbie Friberg................................. 925-212-7465
Communications
Eugene Dizon..................................... 925-370-8143
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Viviana & Marty Magee........................ 925-228-6460
Faith Formation - Religious Education (Pre-K-8th Grades)
Andrea Watkins.................................. Ext 30 925-228-2230
Finance
Don Brocca...925-229-4158 and Dennis Koller...925-335-9395
Grief Ministry/Card Ministry
Mary Cook........................................... 925-229-2665
Guadalupe Society
Guadalupe Cruz.................................. 925-997-2432
Hospital/Sick/Homebound
Tom Greerty/Legion of Mary.................. 925-228-4387
Ignite
Cindy Buscaglia................................... 925-787-8396
Italian Catholic Federation - ICF
Tom Cook........................................... 925-229-2665
Knights of Columbus - K of C
Rik Silva.......................................... 925-334-2429
La Comunidad Latina
Lucia Cruz......................................... 925-348-2620
Lectors
Deacon Albert Dizon......................... 925-370-8143
Legion of Mary
Bobby Kiefer..................................... 925-658-1442
Loaves & Fishes
Denice Silva....................................... 925-372-0740
Maintenance
Parish Office ...................................... 925-228-2230
Mary Help of Christians - MHC
Margarita Flores............................... 925-812-1279
Pastoral Advisory Council
Karen Glen....925-788-7716 & Karen Sandri....925-370-7997
Respect Life
Linda Easterday............................... 925-372-3845
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA
Fr. Anthony Huong Le...................... 925-228-2230
Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP
Andrea Watkins................................ 925-228-2230
SECP: No More Secrets - Survivor Outreach
Sherryl Hammon............................... 925-372-6091
San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC
Esther Concepcion............................ 925-381-1835
Social Awareness
Annie Crisp............................ 925-356-8822
Spark (young adult group ages 18 years to 35 years)
Rosemary Cook................................. 925-229-2665
Stewardship
Karen Glen....................................... 925-788-7716
Sociedade Portuguesa Rainha Santa Isabel - SPRSI
Annette Liberty............................... 925-228-8428
St. Vincent de Paul Society - SVdP
Karen Glen....................................... 925-788-7716
Ushers
James McLaughlin............................ 925-228-1051
Young Ladies Institute - YLI
Geri Alexandra............................... 925-698-7644
Youth Group/Confirmation (High School 9 to 12 Grades)
Deacon Dave Holland...................... 925-372-7015

PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF

Fr. Anthony Huong Le, Parochial Administrator
Deacon Albert Dizon                     Deacon David Holland
dcnadizon@yahoo.com                     dcdnholland@yahoo.com
Jessica Griswold, Principal
Saint Catherine Elementary School
griswold@csdo.org                      spresearchschool@comcast.net
925-228-4140                           925-229-2255
RCIA
Parish Office
stcathmtz@yahoo.com                     drcetstcath@yahoo.com
TBA
Director of Music Ministry
Diana Palmer                            Bookkeeper
Sylvia Lloren                            Safe Environment Coordinator
Secretary                               bkprstcath@yahoo.com

PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF

CHURCH LOCATION: 606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA
PARISH OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS: 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA 94553-1720
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-228-2230 / 925-228-1318
PARISH WEBSITE: www.stcmtz.org
PARISH EMAIL: stcathmtz@yahoo.com
SUBMISSIONS: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com
OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-1PM & 2PM-5PM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL: 604 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-228-4140 / 925-228-0697
SCHOOL WEBSITE: http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com/
PRE SCHOOL: 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474
SAFE ENVIRONMENT: www.virtusonline.org
BAPTISMS: Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class before reception of the sacrament.
MARRIAGES: Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at least eight months prior to the wedding.
FUNERALS: We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-932-0900. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.
BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: To place an announcement in the bulletin, email request to: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com. The deadline for requests is no later than noon on Fridays one week prior to the date of the bulletin in which the announcement is requested to appear.
EARLY DEADLINES: Closely watch early deadlines imposed by the publisher and plan ahead accordingly. Deadline for Aug 5 has passed. The next deadline for submissions for the weekend is August 19 all items must be submitted by Fri August 10 by noon.
Please direct your inquiries to the email above, Thank you.
Dear Friends in Christ,

Today we will talk about the origin of the Eucharist, the Source and Summit of Christian life. As the Church, we believe that the Eucharist is foreshadowed and anticipated in the Old Testament, fulfilled in the person of Jesus, and faithfully handed on and expounded by the Magisterium of the Church.

The Old Testament gives some immediate contexts, which, in many ways, foreshadowed and anticipated the Eucharist. All these anticipations, however, evolved around the idea of covenantal sacrifice. The book of Genesis depicts an event that marks the first paradigm for sacrifice. It is Abraham’s sacrifice of Isaac (Gen 21) according to God’s command. In this sacrifice, some essential aspects of sacrifice in the Old Testament are presented here.

First, the sacrifice-offerer is asked in faith to obey the Lord’s command without reservation; second, the victim—the offered’s absolute surrender to the will of the Lord is also required. In other words, both the offerer and the offered are asked to trust and surrender themselves to the Lord’s will regardless of what might or might not happen to them. We will see these aspects of sacrifice are reinforced again as the chosen people of God gathered to celebrate the Passover meal on the night they departed from Egypt according to God’s directives (Exodus 12).

However, at this Passover meal, sacrifice is added a new meaning. Sacrifice is now situated within the context of a perpetual Passover celebration in commemoration of God’s deliverance of Israel from slavery. In other words, the feast has become not only a commemorating event, but also an act of thanksgiving and worship rendered to God. This new aspect will later become a pre-requisition for the chosen people in order to enter into the Sinai Covenant with God, Himself. At Mount Sinai, God entered into a covenant through which He claims to be their God and them His people. Notice that this covenant is not merely a contract, but rather it is an exchange of two covenant partners, God and the chosen people. God is now permanently bound with His people; and the people are permanently bound to Him. Animal sacrifices, thus, become an important part of that covenant because the shedding of the blood of the animal sacrifices indicates the sealing of the covenant. In other words, it is ratified by blood!

Nonetheless, these animal sacrifices are there only to facilitate the true offering of the people themselves to God as a privileged covenant partner in responding to God’s self-communication and self-offering.

If the Old Testament provides some historical contexts for the origin of the Eucharist, the New Testament marks its coming into fulfillment definitively in the person of Jesus. Let us keep in mind that Jesus is a devout Jew, who faithfully obeys the liturgical practices of Israel. He is the fulfillment of what is foreshadowed and anticipated in the events of Abraham’s sacrifice of Isaac, the Passover, and the Sinai Covenant.

Synoptic Gospels’ accounts of the Last Supper (Mt. 26) and the Gospel of John’s detailed Passover meal (John 18-19) make it clear that Jesus is the perfect sacrificial lamb, pleasing to God. Jesus, as the Lamb of God (John 1; Revelation 5), will be the One who sets all men free from the slavery of sin and death; He enters into and seals the new covenant with humanity by shedding His own Blood. The Church never fails to teach this faith: “At the Last Supper, on the night when He was betrayed, our Savior instituted the Eucharistic sacrifice of His Body and Blood. He did this in order to perpetuate the sacrifice of the Cross throughout the centuries until He should come again, and so to entrust to His beloved spouse, the Church, a memorial of His death and resurrection: a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, a paschal banquet in which Christ is eaten, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us” (Sacrosanctum Concilium, 47). In the mind of the Church, Jesus truly “instituted the Eucharist on Holy Thursday ‘the night when He was betrayed,’ as He celebrated the Last Supper with His Apostles. (Compendium, 81).

In summary, the Eucharist was foreshadowed and anticipated in the events of the Old Testament, above all, the Passover meal celebrated by the chosen people with unleavened bread and sacrificial lambs to commemorate the liberation brought about by God’s great deed. Jesus, as the perfect Lamb, has brought these events to fulfillment by celebrating the Passover meal through which He established the New Covenant with God’s people by offering of Himself as the spotless sacrificial victim.

It should be clear to us by now, the Eucharist is not an invention of the Church, but a gift received from the Lord as He commanded the Apostles: “Do this in memory of Me” (1 Corinthians 11:24). The Eucharist then demands of us a greater appreciation as we approach to participate in the Eucharist. We are also called to join Jesus in offering ourselves as victims of divine love for the salvation of the world, thus our own salvation.

—Fr. Anthony Le
**WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE**

Week-at-a-glance dates, times, and locations are taken from the website calendar: www.stcmtz.org. If further clarification is needed, please contact the parish office at 925-228-2230 extension 0.

### Sunday, 8/5
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 8:00 AM PH Hospitality—host needed

### Monday, 8/6
Transfiguration of the Lord
- 6:30 PM PC Scripture Study with Clergy
- 7:00 PM PCL Knights of Columbus Officers’ Mtg.

### Tuesday, 8/7
St. Cajetan, pray for us.
- 5:00 PM CH Choir Workshop
- 6:00 PM CH Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM PH YLI Meeting

### Wednesday, 8/8
St. Dominic, pray for us.
- 6:30 PM PCL Legion of Mary Meeting
- 7:30 PM CH Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, 8/9
St. Teresa Benedicta, pray for us.
- 5:30 PM PCL IGNITE Book Club Meeting
- 7:00 PM CH Lectors Meeting
- 7:30 PM PH Knights of Columbus Meeting

### Friday, 8/10
St. Lawrence, pray for us.
- 12:00 PM CH Adoration
- 5:00 PM CH Benediction

### Saturday, 8/11
St. Clare, pray for us.
- 9:30 AM PCL SVdP Food Distribution
- 10:30 AM CH Baptisms
- 11:30 AM PH Legion of Mary Curia Meeting
- 3:00 PM CH Reconciliation

### Sunday, 8/12
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 8:00 AM PH Hospitality—host needed
- 2:00 PM CH Baptisms

**COMING SOON:** ST. VINCENT DE PAUL & LOAVES & FISHES. THE BIG LA BOCCE. SAT, SEP 22. BOCC️ BALL TOURNAMENT. TRY STUNED

SEP 29 @ 10 AM at the Cathedral of Christ the Light.
All who provide healthcare services, direct & administratively, are encouraged to attend this multicultural celebration. Reception & mental health resources fair will follow.

**Mark Your Calendars!**
**San Lorenzo Ruiz Fiesta**
SAT, SEP 29 after the 4:30 pm Mass
Details/Tickets available soon!

**Martinez Home Tour**
Sat, Oct. 13 @ 10 AM to 4 PM
Explore eight beautiful homes & gardens plus St. Catherine Church & School. For tickets: www.martinezhometour.com

**Join Us on Sat. Oct 20**
ICF Annual Family Polenta, Chicken & Sausage Dinner Info & Tix Call 925-229-2685

**parish stewardship**

**JULY 29, 2018**

**OFFERINGS**
- Sunday Collection $5,530.00
- Fulfilling the Promise $ 5.00
- Maintenance $ 20.00
- Mission Co-op $3,434.00
- St. Vincent de Paul $1,758.50

Thank you for your continued generosity!

**Remember St. Catherine Parish in Your Will & Living Trust**

**intentions for the week**

**SAT 8/4**
- 4:30 PM Joe Gomes †
**SUN 8/5**
- 7:00 PM Norberto Quisumbing †
  - 8:30 PM McLoughlin & Curtyn Families †
  - 10:30 PM Toby Trujillo & Leo Trujillo †
  - 12:30 PM Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish
**MON 8/6**
- 8:00 PM Graciella Durate †
**TUE 8/7**
- 8:00 PM Int. Nicholas Lloren
**WED 8/8**
- 8:00 PM Reynaldo L. Lejano †
**FRI 8/10**
- 8:00 PM Jose Belleza †
**SAT 8/11**
- 8:00 PM Isidro & Erotida Romero †
  - 4:30 PM Walter & Michael Narrodzonek †
**SUN 8/12**
- 7:00 PM Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish
  - 8:30 PM Victor Cattolico †
  - 10:30 PM Helen Ulricksen †
  - 12:30 PM Cardenas & Polina Family

**Week-at-a-glance dates, times, and locations are taken from the website calendar: www.stcmtz.org. If further clarification is needed, please contact the parish office at 925-228-2230 extension 0.**

**White Mass—Thanksgiving Mass for Healthcare Providers. SEP 29 @ 10 AM at the Cathedral of Christ the Light. All who provide healthcare services, direct & administratively, are encouraged to attend this multicultural celebration. Reception & mental health resources fair will follow.**

**Mark Your Calendars!**
**Faith Formation Registration 2018-19**
Sunday, August 26 after all Masses
For more info, please call the Parish Office or Contact Andrea Watkins at drestcath@yahoo.com
Director of Religious Education for PreK through 8th
Contact Deacon Dave Holland at daveh@cfcsoakland.org
High School students Youth Group and/or Confirmation

If you are beginning to receive calendars in the mail that you will not be using for the upcoming year 2019, consider donating them to the seniors in the local nursing facilities that SCS ministers visit. Please deposit them in the box on the counter in the vestibule or the church. The collection will continue over the next few months. Only deposit 2019 calendars, please.

**ICF Annual Family Polenta, Chicken & Sausage Dinner**
INFO & TIX CALL 925-229-2685

**ICF Annual Family Polenta, Chicken & Sausage Dinner**
INFO & TIX CALL 925-229-2685

**For information about ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA all-year-round RCIA program, please contact the parish office at steathmtz@yahoo.com or call 925-228-2230.**
AUGUST
“The Shack” by Wm. Paul Young
Read up to Chapter 9: discuss on Thu, Aug 9
5:30 pm—7 pm Parish Center
Read up to Chapter 13: discuss on Thu, Aug 23
5:30 pm—7 pm Parish Center

COMING IN SEPTEMBER
“Theology for Beginners” by Frank Sheed
For more information or to be placed on the emailing list contact the Ignite team at IgniteSCS@gmail.com

FREE TRAINING IN OAKLAND
Want to know more about human trafficking in the East Bay? Don’t have time for a lengthy training series? Feel like you don’t have a good grasp on the issue? Want more details in order to develop an informed opinion/stance? Wish you could train but don’t have childcare?

Come to a one-time Day Star Training. They’re happening each Monday night in August. Info. Snacks. Childcare. Register at https://tinyurl.com/y7v4spd7

READY TO PLAY BASKETBALL?
Saint Catherine of Siena CYO Basketball 2018-19 Registration is available until August 31 online. Open to Girls and Boys in Grades 2nd to 8th. Please visit CYO website for eligibility and pricing info: www.stcmtzcyo.org

Natural Family Planning Classes
An introduction to NFP, a form of family planning which conforms to Catholic teaching, is being offered on Sat, September 8 from 1 PM to 4 PM @ Real Options Obria Medical Clinic, 33523 Western Avenue, Union City. The session is FREE and open to engaged and married couples, clergy and religious. For more info call 510-271-1936.

Call all youth who are currently serving or are interested in joining St. Catherine altar server ministry.

Altar Servers Training Saturday, August 25 @ 9 am in the Church
You are required to have already received First Holy Communion. If this interests you, please see Fr. Anthony.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT
St. Catherine of Siena Kindergarten through 8th Grades
Monday, August 27
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Parish Hall & School

TO MAINTAIN A JOYFUL FAMILY REQUIRES MUCH FROM BOTH THE PARENTS AND THE CHILDREN. EACH MEMBER OF THE FAMILY HAS TO BECOME, IN A SPECIAL WAY, THE SERVANT OF THE OTHERS. —St. John Paul II

Have you seen the new sign at the parish center? It will certainly make it easier to give directions while making ourselves more visible to the city of Martinez.
In memory of Ralph Mohammed, husband and father, the Mohammed family together hosted hospitality on what would have been the anniversary of his birth. Pictured above are just some of Mary and Ralph’s nine children and significant others. They are from left to right: Greg, Annie, Kathleen, Caroline, Stephen, Timothy, and Sean. Absent from the picture were Miguel, Loretta, Judith, and Charlie. What a wonderful way to honor him! The Mohammed family have plans to host more family hospitality dates as a celebratory tradition. Thank you all for your generosity and warmth with this fine example of stewardship. God bless Ralph and the Mohammed family. Thank you.

CELEBRATE YOUR CATHOLIC MARRIAGE WITH US 2018
Join Bishop Michael Barber, SJ and other anniversary celebrants, families, and friends
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
SUN, OCT 21 @ 10:00 AM
Cathedral of Christ the Light
Reception following for registered guests
$25/anniversary couple & $10 each guest
www.oakdiocese.org/anniversary

While Martin Luther’s interior troubles plunged Europe into a maelstrom of controversy, confusion, and war, the Basque soldier Ignacio de Loyola set out on an extraordinary interior pilgrimage of grace. Taught directly by God, Ignatius offered the Church a new spirituality of devoted service to Christ and founded a religious order dedicated to evangelization, the Jesuits.

St. Catherine of Siena
IGNITE
WEEKLY REFLECTION with CLERGY on the SUNDAY READINGS
Every Monday evening from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm
St. Gabriel Room in the Parish Center

St. Katherine parish bids a fond farewell to Music Director, Michael Chio, who recently resigned to take another position. We thank him for his service to the parish and our school.

The Liturgy of the Hours is an official prayer of the church. It is a beautiful source of blessings and consolation as one prays with the church as a whole. The Church invites the faithful to participate with the clergy whose vocation requires them to do so.

All are invited to participate in morning prayer led by the assigned clergy every week after the Sunday, 8:30 AM Mass beginning on Sunday, September 2nd. You are invited to remain after the 8:30 AM morning Mass or arrive earlier for the 10:30 AM Mass.

Parishioners have found it very spiritually uplifting and it may be a welcomed opportunity for spiritual reflection to begin your day and your week. Won’t you join in?
**READINGS & REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**SUN, AUG 5, 2018: EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Free food

Most of us learn early that there's no free lunch. Even when manna falls from the sky, an expectation is attached to this heavenly hoarfrost. It's the expectation that sharing this meal makes you a member of the community; that this community worships the one God; that such an identity involves a life shaped around common values. We eat this bread and drink this cup in perfect freedom. And yes, it's free—for those who take divine life from heaven seriously. Ask yourself: Am I prepared to bring Christ-life into the world?

*Today's readings: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Ephesians 4:17, 20-24; John 6:24-35 (113). “But Moses told them: ‘This is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.’”*

**MON, AUG 6, 2018: FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD Glimpses of glory**

Jesus takes the disciples Peter, James, and John up the mountain. There see their Lord glorified before their amazed eyes. He speaks with Elijah and Moses, to show His connection with the prophets and the faith. It's almost as if Jesus is offering His followers some positive reinforcement—"See, your belief in Me is true." Not surprisingly, Peter wants to "capture the moment" and remain in this place of assurance, but after they hear a voice from heaven, things return to "normal" and "they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them." As Christians we crave times when we feel what we believe is true. But we can't live in these moments forever. Most of our journey won't be on the mountain but on much more uncertain ground. But still we have Jesus, and we have one another.

*Today's readings: Deuteronomy 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Mark 9:2-10 (614). “This is My Son, the Beloved; listen to him!”*

**TUE, AUG 7, 2018: MEMORIALS OF SIXTUS II, POPE, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS Enter into agreement**

When Sixtus II became pope in 257, he inherited a controversy so severe it threatened the unity of the church. During the pontificate of his predecessor, Saint Stephen, the churches of Africa and Asia Minor opposed Rome on the issue of whether those who formerly renounced the Christian faith during persecution needed a new Baptism before being accepted back into the church. Rome said they did not. Rather, as Sixtus insisted, the grace of the original sacrament remained even with those who renounced Christ under threat of death. And while he could not persuade the Eastern churches that rebaptism was unnecessary, he was noted for restoring amicable relations. Consider how you can repair communications with those with whom you have disagreements.

*Today's readings: Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Matthew 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14 (408). “As many as touched it were healed.”*

**WED, AUG 8, 2018: MEMORIAL OF DOMINIC, PRIEST Better living through books**

The sheer glut of information in which we live tempts us to be satisfied with sound bites, news highlights, even "spirituality lite." However, Dominic reminds us to go deeper. The study of the word of God is “itself an act of worship which sanctifies us,” and “today we need a knowledge of many things if we are to understand the Holy Scriptures properly and apply them to the concerns of our age” (Benedict Ashley, O.P.). A subscription to one of the many high-quality Catholic periodicals or joining a book discussion group might be just the right way to take up Dominic's challenge. *Today's readings: Jeremiah 31:1-7; Matthew 15:21-28 (409). “She said, ‘Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.’”*

**THU, AUG 9, 2018: MEMORIAL OF TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS, VIRGIN, MARTYR Great faith doesn’t happen overnight**

Many of us may be able to pinpoint clarifying moments when our faith comes to life and we are keenly aware of God’s presence, but underlying those moments are many hours of reading, discussing, pondering, and questioning. This is the process that Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) went through on her way to becoming a Catholic, a Carmelite, and a martyr among Jews and Christians in 1942. She credits her conversion with reading the autobiography of Saint Teresa of Ávila, but it was her lifelong pursuit of knowledge—challenging her own and others' beliefs—that primed her to read the book that would lead her to Christ. In honor of Saint Teresa, read a book that stretches your mind and heart today.

*Today's readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 16:13-23 (410). “You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”*

**FRI, AUG 10, 2018: FEAST OF LAWRENCE, DEACON, MARTYR Laugh it up**

We don’t picture saints as having senses of humor. That is what makes the story of Lawrence being roasted over hot coals and telling his tormentors: “Turn me over. I am done on this side!” one of the most retold accounts of martydom. Who cares if it is just a legend? It remains a wonderful reminder that many saints laughed amid great hardship and that helped them reach sanctity. What has made you laugh a holy laugh lately?

*Today's readings: 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; John 1:12-26 (618). “God loves a cheerful giver.”*

**SAT, AUG 11, 2018: MEMORIAL OF CLARE, VIRGIN The spirit of poverty**

Saint Clare (1193-1253) was only 18 when she first heard Saint Francis of Assisi preach. His words set her on fire, and she soon ran away from home to bind herself to the Franciscan spirit of poverty and charity. Her family was outraged—even more so when Clare’s 15-year-old sister Agnes followed her to the convent several weeks later. In time, all was forgiven, and Clare’s mother, another sister, and an aunt eventually became Poor Clares, as the second order of St. Francis became known. Clare’s tireless work to preserve the privilege of absolute poverty helped the Franciscan movement survive intact after the death of Francis. Pray for Clare’s youthful zeal in committing yourself to Christ.

*Today's readings: Hebrews 1:12—2:4; Matthew 17:14-20 (412). “Amen, I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”*

**SUN, AUG 12, 2018: NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Food for the road**

We cherish those moments when nourishment comes as if heaven-sent. Trapped at our desks for the evening, someone thoughtfully orders take-out. When we’re in mourning, caring neighbors drop off casseroles. We’re tempted to graze self-pityingly on the cupboard’s junk food, when a friend calls with an invitation to a real meal. Sometimes the sustenance isn’t food at all, but warmth, comfort, understanding, or forgiveness. Angels are everywhere on duty, supplying what’s needed in the world’s dark corners. Is it your turn to be that angel? Who might be hungry today?

*Today's readings: 1 Kings 19:4-8; Ephesians 4:30—5:2; John 6:41-51 (116). “The angel ordered, ‘Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!’”*
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